

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-7, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend the claims, as follows:

1.-7. (Canceled).

8. (New) A method for playback of a moving image in which an NTSC format image data obtained as 32 pull-down from an image of a movie is displayed as a non-interlaced image on a display, said method comprising:

sequentially reading image data from a recording medium, onto which said image data has been recorded after conversion of an NTSC system image into digital data, in units of frames;

dividing said read-out image data into even and odd fields for each frame individually;

judging whether or not an image of an even field in a currently read-out frame is the same image as that of an image of an even field in an immediately previously read-out frame;

making a non-interlaced display of the image at a predetermined first time interval in the case in which said judgment was made that images were not the same;

reading image data without making said judgment for a predetermined number of successive frames to be read out including said currently read-out frame when said judgment was that images were the same;

forming one frame from an odd field of a currently read-out frame and an even field of the next frame to be read out, so as to reduce the number of frames with respect to each of said predetermined number of successive frames; and

making a non-interlaced display of said frames obtained from said predetermined number of successive frames at a predetermined second time interval being different from said first time interval.

9. (New) A method for playback of a moving image according to claim 8, further comprising:

sequentially reading image data from a recording medium, onto which said image data has been recorded after conversion of an NTSC system image into digital data, in units of frames;

dividing said read-out image data into even and odd fields for each frame individually;

judging whether or not an image of an even field in a currently read-out frame is the same image as that of an image of an even field in an immediately previously read-out frame;

making a non-interlaced display of the currently read-out frame at an interval of $1/30$ as said first time interval in the case in which a judgment was made that images were not the same, and reading image data without making a judgment for 4 frames from the next frame to be read out when a judgment was that images were the same; and

forming one frame from odd fields of a currently read-out frame and even fields of a next frame to be read out, so that 2 frames are reduced to 1 frame and with 4 frames including said frame being displayed in a non-interlaced manner at an interval of $1/24$ second as said second time interval.

10. (New) A method for playback of a moving image according to claim 8, wherein said image data recorded on said recording medium is compressed and encoded, and is decoded at the time of readout.

11. (New) A method for playback of a moving image according to claim 10, wherein said image data recorded on said recording medium is compressed and encoded using an interframe prediction method and includes data representing a difference value with respect to a previous frame or data representing a vector of a movement with respect to a previous frame, and

wherein a judgment is made that images are the same when data in an even field of a read-out frame is within a prescribed value.

12. (New) A method for playback of a moving image according to claim 9, wherein said image data recorded on said recording medium is compressed and encoded, and is decoded at the time of readout.

13. (New) A method for playback of a moving image according to claim 8, wherein a determination whether or not images are the same to each other is performed in such a way that two temporary storage means are provided, which store each one of even and odd fields respectively which being divided from a frame read-out, storage being performed alternately each time when a frame is read out, a comparison being made of an even field of an immediately previous read-out frame stored in said temporary storage means and an even field currently read out, a non-interlaced display being performed by reading out and

displaying image data from said temporary storage means, into which is stored even and odd fields of a currently read-out frame, and only in a case in which images are judged to be the same, image data of the next frame is read out and overwritten in said temporary storage means that stores an immediately previous frame, after which image data being read out from an odd field of said temporary storage means storing the currently read-out frame and an even field of said temporary storage means storing the next frame and displayed.

14. (New) A method for playback of a moving image according to claim 9, wherein a determination whether or not images are the same to each other is performed in such a way that two temporary storage means are provided, which store each one of even and odd fields respectively which being divided from a frame read-out, storage being performed alternately each time when a frame is read out, a comparison being made of an even field of an immediately previous read-out frame stored in said temporary storage means and an even field currently read out, a non-interlaced display being performed by reading out and displaying image data from said temporary storage means, into which is stored even and odd fields of a currently read-out frame, and only in a case in which images are judged to be the same, image data of the next frame is read out and overwritten in said temporary storage means that stores an immediately previous frame, after which image data being read out from an odd field of said temporary storage means storing the currently read-out frame and an even field of said temporary storage means storing the next frame and displayed.

15. (New) A method for playback of a moving image according to claim 10, wherein a determination whether or not images are the same to each other is performed in such a way that two temporary storage means are provided, which store each one of even and odd fields respectively which being divided from a frame read-out, storage being performed alternately each time when a frame is read out, a comparison being made of an even field of an immediately previous read-out frame stored in said temporary storage means and an even field currently read out, a non-interlaced display being performed by reading out and displaying image data from said temporary storage means, into which is stored even and odd fields of a currently read-out frame, and only in a case in which images are judged to be the same, image data of the next frame is read out and overwritten in said temporary storage means that stores an immediately previous frame, after which image data being read out from an odd field of said temporary storage means storing the currently read-out frame and an even field of said temporary storage means storing the next frame and displayed.

16. (New) A method for playback of a moving image according to claim 11, wherein a temporary storage means storing even and odd fields of a read-out frame which being divided from said frame, respectively, and

wherein a non-interlaced display is carried out by reading out and displaying image data from said temporary storage means storing even and odd fields of a read-out frame, and only when a judgment is made that images are the same, only an odd field of the currently read-out frame is stored in an odd field in said temporary storage means, after which image data for a next frame is read out and only the even field is stored in the even field of said temporary storage means, and after these fields are stored, image data is read out from said temporary storage means.

17. (New) A moving image playback apparatus, comprising:

a storage apparatus, which reads out image data from a recording medium onto which is recorded image data converted from NTSC system image data to digital data;

a video decoding section, which sequentially reads out image data from said storage medium, via the storage apparatus, in units of frames, and outputs said read-out image data by dividing each one of said frames into even and odd fields, individually;

an image storage buffer switch, which alternately switches an output destination of said video decoding section for each frame;

a frame buffer, which is connected to said video decoding section via said image storage buffer switch, and which includes two memories, which store image data output by said video decoding section by dividing said image data of each one of said frames into that of an even field and an odd field, respectively;

an image comparison section, which compares the respective even fields stored in said each one of two memories of said frame buffer with each other and which judges images to be the same when a difference between two even fields is within a prescribed value and outputs a result of said judgment;

a display buffer switch, which, based on judgment results of said image comparison section, selects one of said even fields and one of said odd fields from said two memories of said frame buffer; and

a display controller, which reads out image data from said even and odd fields selected by said display buffer switch respectively and outputs a non-interlaced type of signal,

wherein said display buffer switch has input to it said judgment results and only in a case in which said images are judged to be the same, after said memory storing said frame of

an immediately previous read-out is overwritten by image data of a next frame, an odd field of said memory storing said currently read-out frame and an even field of said memory storing said next frame are selected, and

wherein in other cases even and odd fields of said memory storing said currently read-out frame are selected, said display controller being configured to input said judgment results and so that a display interval for each frame is made at a second interval time for a predetermined number of frames from a time said judgment is made that said images are the same, while said interval being made at a first interval time at other times.

18. (New) A moving image playback apparatus according to claim 17, wherein said first interval time is 1/30 second and said second interval time is 1/24 second.

19. (New) A moving image playback apparatus according to claim 17, wherein said predetermined number of frames is four.

20. (New) A moving image playback apparatus, comprising:

a storage apparatus, which stores image data that has been converted from NTSC system images to digital data and then compressed and encoded using an interframe prediction method, and which reads out image data from a recording medium which stores data including data that represents a difference value with respect to an immediately previous frame or data that represents a vector of a part of said frame that has moved from said immediately previous frame;

a video decoding section, which sequentially reads out image data from said storage medium, via said storage apparatus, and which decodes said image data, separating said data into even and odd fields and then outputting said data;

a same-image judgment section, which judges that images are the same when either said data expressing said difference value with respect to said immediately previous frame, or said data representing said vector of said part that has moved from said immediately previous frame in said even field of a read-out frame is within a prescribed value, and which outputs a result of said judgment;

a frame buffer having a memory, which stores image data output by said video decoding section, in a form of even and odd fields, respectively which are divided from said frame thus read out; and

a display controller, which reads out even and odd fields stored in said memory of the frame buffer and outputs a non-interlaced type of signal,

wherein said video decoding section is configured so that only when a judgment that said images are the same is made by said same-image judgment section only said odd field of said currently read-out frame is decoded and output to said memory, after which the next frame image data is read and the even field only is decoded and output to said memory, and

wherein said display controller is configured so as to input said judgment results and to make a display interval formed between every successive two frames, at a second interval time for a predetermined number of successive frames counted from the time said judgment is made that said images are the same, while this interval being made at a first interval time at other conditions.

21. (New) A moving image playback apparatus according to claim 20, wherein said first interval time is $1/30$ second and said second interval time is $1/24$ second.

22. (New).A moving image playback apparatus according to claim 20, wherein said predetermined number of frames is four.